

July 19, 2007

Ms. Ruth M. Horton  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
400 W. Summit Hill Drive, WT 11D-K  
Knoxville, TN 37902

**RE: EPA Review and Comments on  
Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (FSEIS)  
Completion and Operation of  
Watts Bar Nuclear Plant Unit 2  
CEQ No. 20070254**

Dear Ms. Horton:

The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 4, reviewed the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (FSEIS), pursuant to Section 309 of the Clean Air Act and Section 102 (2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The purpose of this letter is to provide the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) with EPA's comments regarding potential impacts of the completion and operation of the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant Unit 2.

The proposed action of completing and operating the Watts Bar Nuclear plant Unit 2 would provide additional baseload capacity, and maximize the use of existing assets. The facility uses intakes from the Tennessee River for plant cooling, and discharges wastewater via three outfalls to the Tennessee River.

Based on EPA's review of the FSEIS, environmental concerns continue to exist. Specifically, protecting the environment involves the continuing need for appropriate storage and ultimate disposition of radioactive wastes generated on-site, as well as continuing measures to limit bioentrainment and other impacts to aquatic species from surface water withdrawals and discharges, and compliance with the NPDES Permit.

Continuing radiological monitoring of all plant effluents and appropriate storage of spent fuel assemblies and radioactive wastes on-site is required for this project. Ultimately, long-term radioactive waste disposition will require transportation of wastes to a permitted repository site.

In conclusion, the FSEIS is clearly written and provides useful information for assessment of the proposal to finish and operate Unit 2. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this document. If we can be of further assistance, please contact Ramona McConney of my staff at (404) 562-9615.

Sincerely,

Heinz J. Mueller, Chief  
NEPA Program Office